

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Consideration of the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is requested.

The Preliminary Amendment submitted with this application was not entered, because of the omission of instruction on the handling of claims 18-20. The present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment addresses the status of claims 18-20. Therefore entry of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment is requested.

Claims 1-20 were originally present in the application.

Claims 18-20 have been cancelled.

Accordingly, the claims pending and under consideration are claims 1-17.

Early favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance of claims 1-17.

Respectfully submitted,

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